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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

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SUBJECT Low Shaft Type Furnace Construction
at Maxhutte, Unterwellenborn

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. The reasearch department of the Maxhutte at Unterwellenborn designed and built a low shaft type furnace (Niederschachtofen) in cooperation with the plant management. This shaft furnace began operating early in 1950. Unsintered fine ore was briquetted and mixed with crude brown coal to charge the furnace. The press used for briquetting was too weak and therefore was not satisfactory in the beginning. However, the pig iron produced under these unsatisfactory conditions could be used. After appropriate improvements, including work on the tuyeres of the blast pipes, tests were to be continued.
2. These tests were part of an attempt to use fuels available in the Russian Zone in the production of pig iron in order to overcome the shortage of blast furnace coke. *

Comment: [redacted] these tests, known under the code name "Donauwörth", are also of importance in connection with the construction of the Eisenwerke West at Calbe (M 52/D 77), which is scheduled to produce pig iron from domestic ore and fuel. [redacted]

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